PATENT

Attorney's Docket No.5405-239

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re: R. Williams Serial No.: 09/698,870

Filed: 09/698,870

Group Art Unit: July 26, 2002 Examiner: J. Souava

For: USE OF POLYMORPHISM OF THE SEROTONIN TRANSPORTER GENE

PROMOTER AS A PREDICTOR OF DISEASE RISK

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Amendment and Response

This is in response to the Official Action of July 26, 2002.

Please enter the following amended claims:

1 (amended). A method of screening human subjects for increased risk of disease in response to stimulus that induces a physiological stress response in said subject, said method comprising:

determining the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in a human subject;

the presence of at least one long allele serotonin transporter gene promoter genotype indicating that said human subject is at increased risk of disease in response to stress.

6 (amended). A method of screening human subjects for increased risk of infectious disease, said method comprising:

determining the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in a human subject;

the presence of at least one long allele serotonin transporter gene promoter genotype indicating that said human subject is at increased risk of infectious disease.